Nagell's Letters from Jail
deciphered (in part) (Sept. 17) (1967?)

When I was in Mexico, I was not a tourist. I was not there to learn Spanish; I speak it quite well. My big spending was part of my cover. I was supposed to be reimbursed by the CIA but never got a dime; nor was I reimbursed by CIA's front in Mexico City (known as XYZ). Held a sizeable stack of receipts and expense vouchers, expecting payment that never materialized [Did he have them in El Paso? Are they put away somewhere?].

My main business was with three people in Mexico City. One was both a member of CIA and XYZ. No need to go into detail, as this business came to an abrupt end (in 1962). It is the ensuing assignment, after my return to Mexico City, that is particularly germane.

During the first week of October 1962, XYZ had picked up word or a rumor to the effect that there was serious discussion of Kennedy's (?) assassination by a group (known as BRAVO) with a branch in Mexico City; in fact, BRAVO's headquarters may have been Mexico City, though I'm not sure. BRAVO is a code name, not the proper designation of the group.

According to XYZ, BRAVO was receiving financial aid from the CIA, for what effort or purpose I had absolutely no

idea. I did know at that time that BRAVO of Mexico City was engaged in terror tactics, i.e., bomb throwing at its foes. It was knowledge of these terror tactics by BRAVO that made the CIA anxious lest the ernest discussions (of assassination) give form to something more tangible than talk. Their anxiety was reinforced by the coincidence of the Missile Crisis in time. I wish to make clear that at no time did the CIA want BRAVO's purported objective accomplished.

My new assignment was to assist in ascertaining (1) whether or not the rumor regarding BRAVO was true, (2) if it was, to ascertain the identities of those involved, (3) the motive and method, etc. It was obvious that I wasn't the only guy saddled with this duty, since I was barely started when I was called to the U. S. Embassy in Mexico City - an unprecedented move in my circumstances - and told the rumor was indeed true, and briefed and furnished a number of photographs [where now?] and instructed to return to the United States. This was the cause of my hasty departure from Mexico City on October 19, 1962.

I could, of course, fill in a lot of detail to give you a better picture of the situation, but I think you will understand why I have neglected to do so.

Anyway, it came to be determined, eventually, that the assassination was scheduled - that is, originally - for the latter part of December (1962) in Miami. Apparently it never proceeded beyond the talking stage, though I wouldn't know because prior thereto, and at the time, I was forced to seek refuge in New York.

Oswald had not yet made the scene, and when he did step on stage, the following summer (of 1963), the motives, method, etc., in fact, everything except the "team", in this instance also BRAVO, had changed considerably.

The second affair was scheduled for the latter part of September, probably the 26th, at Washington, D. C. [...reference to Oswald scratched thru] it is a story by itself, which I shall endeavor to explain later, together with the mess that I was in at the time.